

GEORGIA ENVIRONMENTAL FINANCE AUTHORITY

Nathan Deal Governor Kevin Clark Executive Director

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Community Action for Improvement Inc. to Weatherize Homes in Muscogee County

ATLANTA – The Georgia Environmental Finance Authority's (GEFA) Weatherization Assistance Program (WAP) today announced that Community Action for Improvement Inc. (CAFI) will perform weatherization services for Muscogee County beginning May 1, 2011. CAFI, which was chosen following a competitive RFP process, will be responsible for weatherizing 300 homes in Muscogee County by the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) mandated deadline of March 31, 2012. GEFA facilitates the WAP, which serves low-income families throughout the state.

Enrichment Services Program Inc., which previously provided weatherization services for Muscogee County, announced in February that it would no longer participate in GEFA's WAP program in order to pursue other projects directed toward its organization's goals and objectives.

The WAP's mission is to reduce state and national consumption of energy while providing a safe, improved environment and enhanced quality of life for Georgia's income-eligible households. The Georgia WAP received \$124.5 million through the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act; \$99 million was given to 22 community service providers in the WAP network to weatherize homes for low-income families in need. The service providers include local community action agencies, city governments and other nonprofit organizations.

Nationwide, the WAP has weatherized more than 200,000 homes, which are now not only more energy efficient, but save weatherization clients money on their utility bills. In Georgia, 7,900 homes have been weatherized through March 2011.

About the Georgia Environmental Finance Authority (<u>www.gefa.org</u>)

The <u>Georgia Environmental Finance Authority</u> (GEFA) provides energy, land and water resources resulting in an improved quality of life for today and future generations. GEFA is the lead agency for state energy programs and is home to the Center of Innovation for Energy; directs the Georgia Land Conservation Program and maintains state-owned fuel storage tanks; and offers financing for reservoir and water supply, water quality, storm water and solid waste infrastructure. Since 1985, GEFA has approved financial commitments totaling more than \$3 billion to local governments, businesses and nonprofit organizations. For more information, visit www.gefa.org, Facebook or Flickr.